



NEWS FROM NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Contact: George Liles, NOAA
(508)495-2378

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Fisherman Wins \$250 Reward

Dean Isaacson, a Virginia Beach commercial fisherman, won a \$250 in a tag drawing, NOAA Fisheries announced today. Isaacson is the third winner in a series of drawings being held in the Woods Hole Science Aquarium at NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC).

The cash reward is part of an ongoing fish tagging program that provides information about the biology and movements of black sea bass and scup. From 2002 to 2005, fishermen and scientists worked together to tag more than 13,000 black sea bass with orange tags and more than 5,000 scup with lime green tags. Fishermen who call in to report catching a tagged fish can choose either an embroidered cap or entry into the quarterly \$250 drawing.

The reward program was organized by NEFSC fishery biologists and the winning tag was drawn by Meghan Soderstrom, a Cape Cod Community College student who is doing an internship in the aquarium. Meghan drew Isaacson's tag from a fish bowl that contained approximately 250 tags.

The first drawing was held June 30, and the winner was James Dawson, a commercial fisherman out of Chincoteague, Virginia. The second winner was Kerry Harrington, an Ocean City, MD fisherman whose tag was drawn August 22.

Information about the reward program is available on the websites of the Cooperative Black Sea Bass Tagging Project (<http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/read/popdy/blackseabass-tagging/>) and the Cooperative Scup Tagging Project (<http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/read/popdy/scup-tagging/>).

NOAA Fisheries Service is dedicated to providing and preserving the nation's living marine resources and their habitat through scientific research, management, and enforcement. NOAA Fisheries provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

In 2007 NOAA, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, celebrates 200 years of science and service to the nation. Starting with the establishment of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1807 by Thomas Jefferson much of America's scientific heritage is rooted in NOAA. The agency is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and information service delivery for transportation, and by providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners, more than 60 countries and the European Commission to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes, predicts and protects.

On the Web:

NOAA: <http://www.noaa.gov>

NOAA Fisheries Service: <http://www.noaa.nmfs.gov>

NOAA Fisheries Northeast Region: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>